

WNYRIC Advisory Council Meeting
March 20, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
DL sites: E1B Ed Campus Room A1, Erie 2 BOCES LoGuidice Room 2, CA BOCES
Admin Conference Room, GST BOCES Bath Middle School Room 145, ON BOCES
DL Room at Tech Center

Attendees:

Jim Fregelette/E1 BOCES (Exec. Dir. Fin. & Info Systems)	Lynda Quick/CA BOCES (District Supt.)
Chris Smith/Bath CSD (Tech Coordinator)	Mary Beth Scullion/Tonawada (Asst. Supt. Cur.)
Eric Lawton/West Valley CSD (Supt.)	Karen Cuddy Miller/Grand Island (Asst. Supt. Cur.)
Maria Sommerfeldt/Depew (Dist. Tech Coord.)	David O'Rourke/E2CC BOCES (District Supt.)
Mike Graf/CA BOCES (Tech Director)	Danielle O'Connor/Frewsburg CSD (Supt.)
Greg Woytila/N Tonawanda City (Supt.)	Patrick Flaitz/Hornell City (Business Manager)
Tim Clarke/CA BOCES (Prof. Development)	Michelle Okal Frink/WNYRIC (Assoc. Director)
Don Skotnicki/E1 BOCES (Supr. of Instr. Tech)	Bob Spino/E2CC BOCES (Tech Director)
Jean Rexford/WNYRIC (CSR)	Deborah Coder/Lockport CSD (Business Official)
Carol Barber/WNYRIC (Deputy Supt.)	Jill Holbrook/WNYRIC (Assoc. Dir./Infrastructure)
Julianna Sciolino/WNYRIC (Assoc. Director)	Rosanne Huffcut/WNYRIC (Assoc. Director)
Dick Lydo/WNYRIC (Assoc. Dir./Operations)	Mike Watson/Allegany Limestone CSD (Bus. Off.)
Jennifer Lilly/WNYRIC (CSR)	Rich Calkins/Alfred Almond CSD (Supt.)
Margaret Munson/GST BOCES (Asst. Supt.)	Barb Mocarski/E1B/WNYRIC (Executive Director)
Taweepon Sminiski/Akron CSD (Director Spec Ed)	Valerie Winegarten/WNYRIC (minutes)
Mary Ann Buch/Niagara Wheatfield (Tech Coord.)	

Jan Mathis reviewed a Powerpoint presentation on Endpoint Management. The reports illustrated energy reductions and cost containment. The reports can be used as a tool that districts can share with the public and their school board. For more information, contact Jan Mathis at jmathis@e1b.org.

1. Administrative Items:

- Call to order- Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Patrick Flaitz.
- Roll call -Introductions were made by region.
- Minutes of December 17, 2014- Patrick asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes of December 17, 2013 and there were none. Greg Woytila made the motion to accept the meeting minutes; Jim Fregelette seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously (19 yes/0 no).

2. New Business: -

- 2013-2014 793 Plan Highlights--Associate Directors highlighted the following:
 - Goal 1.1- The network recorded highest utilization at 5.33 Gb internet through-put this morning; it was 3.2 Gb at this time last year.
 - Goal 1.3-The WNYRIC Lifecycle Team prepares weekly reports and distributes the reporting to key staff that identifies Windows XP computers that are still on the network. Window XP is no longer supported after April 8th therefore leaves these machines and the school networks and shared network vulnerable to viruses.
 - Goal 2.1-The new Microsoft EES contract is in place and districts have begun ordering from it as of March 1, 2014. This created a savings regionally of approximately \$26,000. CSLO sent a follow up email to the Forum for Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment, a group made up of individuals from each BOCES in areas of curriculum, distance learning, data, media and instructional technology leaders to discuss how the WNY region can review the online professional development path for the WNY BOCES regions. At Advisory Council Michelle Okal Frink talked about 2 items that are being

investigated based on the feedback from the statewide NYSITCC consortium. This is the consortium that buys into the contract negotiations for products to be supported under 6360. Robotics and the Makers Movement is a very hot topic and tools to support are being investigated. This topic has already been discussed at FICA. There is nothing on state contract and no means of purchase on a statewide basis that we've come up with so this would be an opportunity that many of the BOCES are looking at providing Professional Development around.

Many of the BOCES in the state are also looking into the option of online Professional Development. Some have the capability of providing their own through Moodle, Blackboard, etc. while others do not have the resources internally to do so. Michelle is beginning to investigate options. Accelerate U was the option we used for online Professional Development about 8 years ago but we no longer pay into that program and therefore haven't offered it in the WNY region for years. We also worked with PBS in the past and other BOCES around the state did as well. If BOCES in the consortium are interested in me pursuing an RFP in this area, it will be pursued but with any RFP awards each BOCES in the consortium decides if they want to offer any products and if so, what products they want to offer. If the consortium decides to move forward with either RFP WNYRIC will bring the info to FICA to decide what we'd want to offer in this region in order to support PD efforts by BOCES in the WNY region. A virtual desktop pilot (VDI) is being conducted in conjunction with Buffalo.

- Goal 2.7-Digital Wave conference was held March 3, 2014 and over 200 attended the conference and there were over 30 presenters. Thanks to those that were presenters.
 - Goal 4.2- Service Desk has implemented Service Now for incident reporting as part of Managed Service for two districts and for hardware repairs for all districts. The platform provides analytics and allows us to be proactive in defining and resolving reoccurring incidents.
 - Goal 5.5- Education Data Portal and Data Dashboard release has been delayed until the Fall. WNYRIC staff continues to work on Best Practices to be proactive in transferring data in a secure manner.
 - Goal 7.2- Participating in a RIC wide project ricOneAPI developed by Lower Hudson RIC to provide integration of student system data to instructional applications. This is different than SIF and the auto export/import process. Instead of sending data from the Student Management System (SMS) to and instructional product, with ricOneAPI, the SMS sends data to a data store and the instructional products pick up the data it needs for the specific application. This all done with a secure connection. Vendors pay the development cost of the API and will discount the cost of the software to the RICs that will support this process.
- Proposed new goals for 2014-2015 793 Plan-Carol review the seven objectives of the new 793 Plan. There were no additions proposed from Advisory Council members. Initiatives will be updated to each objective through-out the year as available. The new plan will be presented in June for approval.
 - Statewide RIC Goals update (Carol Barber):
 - PARCC update- The WNYRIC hosted one of the 3 statewide trainings for PARCC Field testing on February 3, 2014. A technical trial was also conducted at the RIC and in Buffalo Public Schools.
 - NYS Educational Data Dashboard-Committee work has been slow due to the delay announced by SED.

- The push continues on the Microsoft voucher program. Submissions have increased due to the approval of Student Management System and financial software licensing and support.
- Standards Committee Minutes and Resolutions (Jill Holbrook):
 - There was 1 recommendations from the WNYRIC Standards Committee meeting held on February 12, 2014 for WNYRIC Advisory Council action:
 - Motion 1: Sheldon Soman made a motion to add VMware VCenter Operations Manager under category 16. Network Optimization. The motion was seconded by: Ron LaVere; vote results: 12 yes/0 no (unanimous).

Motion to approve the one (1) recommendation was motioned by Jim Fregelette and seconded by David O'Rourke. The motion carried unanimously (18 yes/0 no/1 Abstain by Bob Spino).
- Requests to the Standards Committee to add another Network Wired Switch vendor (Jill)
 - Standards Committee has been receiving inquiries regarding Meraki Wired Switch gear. Meraki was recently purchased by Cisco which is one of the approved switch gear vendors. Jill reviewed the WNYRIC Standards list criteria for adds, removals, and change. Any new switches needs to provide a technology niche that already approved vendor products do not. These switches would be difficult for the Senior Network Engineers to support in an enterprise level through online tools, which could potentially increase costs for districts for WAN support due to total cost of ownership expenses. Avaya and Cisco offer aidable, viable and robust technology at a contained cost. Some members feel a pilot of Meraki should be conducted with results reported back after a pilot is completed. Jill is meeting with Cisco on Thursday, March 27, 2014 to see if the Meraki Cloud software will be implemented in Cisco gear and when and if they can be supported utilizing enterprise management tools. A proof of concept in a district where WNYRIC VoIP service exists would need to be included as switches approved by Standards Committee need to support all services running across the WAN. Any proof of concept would need to cover vendor products in that niche and an eventual RFP would need to be done which would include maintenance costs and WNYRIC support thus complying with the CoSer. There was an additional question about stand-alone VoIP switches and the possibility of aid on the maintenance of these switches purchased by districts. These switches are in the network at the districts but are not supported by the WNYRIC and are not part of the enterprise VoIP system which was awarded through an RFP/Bid process several years ago. Stand-alone systems, without the shared concept are not eligible for aid.
- Broadband update (Carol)-Meetings with WNYRIC staff and other BOCES representatives to create several important scenarios in evaluating a new RFP was very effective. Pat Doyle will prepare analysis based on the broadband responses and a meeting is scheduled for April 1st to review.

3. Round table- Next meeting date is June 10, 2014

- Proposed meeting dates for 2014-15: Thursday, September 18, 2014, Wednesday, December 17, 2014, Thursday, March 19, 2015, Wednesday, June 4, 2014

Chris Smith made a motion to adjourn; Jim Fregelette seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Valerie Winegarten